

South Carolina State **PORTS AUTHORITY**

JAMES I. NEWSOME, III
President and Chief Executive Officer

April 1, 2011

The Honorable Daniel R. Elliot, III
Chairman
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Suite 1220
Washington, DC 20423-0001

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Dear Chairman Elliot:

I am writing to express the South Carolina Ports Authority's support for a strong freight railroad network, not only in our state and region, but throughout the nation.

As America continues to recover from the recent economic downturn, we do not need to reverse progress by hindering the ability of the rail industry to reinvest in their network and continue to provide strong service.

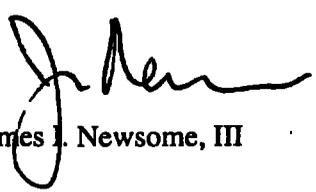
We at the South Carolina Ports Authority support a healthy freight rail network that encourages reinvestment by the rail industry, supports job growth and continued economic recovery.

Our State continues to pursue a greater Charleston area rail solution to serve all the intermodal terminals operated by the port.

We oppose any policy or regulatory changes that would lessen the freight railroads' ability to continue investing billions of dollars annually in private capital to grow and modernize the nation's rail infrastructure. We respectfully request that no regulatory or policy changes be pursued at this time by the STB.

Thank you for our consideration of our position.

Sincerely,


James I. Newsome, III